Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, A small group of 13 Pierre citizens with a similar conviction gathered in 1883 to begin the formation of a new church, culminating in the organization of the First Baptist Church on October 12, 1884; and,

Whereas, The members met in homes, downtown buildings, and built a tar paper building known as the Baptist Tabernacle in the early years, later constructing a church building on Capitol Avenue near the county courthouse in 1895, and dedicating the current building at 2310 East Capitol Avenue on April 1, 1972; and,

Whereas, First Baptist Church is active in local, state, regional, and national American Baptist Churches of the USA affiliated organizations; women, men, and youth associations; Camp Judson ministry; the American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas; and Rosebud Association/Prairie Hills Association; and,

Whereas, First Baptist Church has been active in mission work internationally; within the United States; and locally through the Pierre-Ft. Pierre Ministerium, Community Banquet, and Pierre Pantry; and,

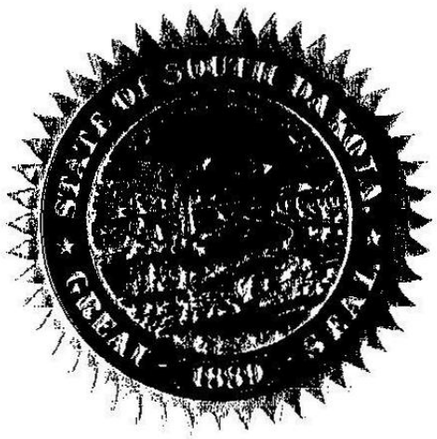
Whereas, First Baptist Church has been the fellowship home of thousands, and hosts activities such as baby dedications, baptisms, Sunday school, Bible studies, vacation Bible school, worship services, weddings, funerals, and remembrances; and,

Whereas, First Baptist Church is celebrating its 125th Anniversary throughout the year with a June picnic, a special September 26th recognition banquet, and a November Thanksgiving service:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2009, as

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PIERRE DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State